

# MAYERS ENSEMBLE PRODUCER

Job Pack – January 2022



## About Pauline Mayers

Pauline is a multidisciplinary theatremaker based in the North. Originally from London, she began her dance training at the Weekend Arts College and continued with ballet and contemporary dance at the Rambert School, London. Pauline's dance career spans 15 years, dancing, teaching and taking the role of rehearsal director for contemporary dance choreographers and companies across the UK including David Hamilton, Janet Smith and Dancers, Diversions Dance, Phoenix Dance Company, The Ensemble Group and Tees Dance Initiative.

Pauline's interest is in reframing spaces and histories through experiential art and culture to help her audiences re-examine shared histories and enable lost voices to be heard. Her work has themes of identity, participation, intimacy and care.



Pauline's critically acclaimed solo show 2017's *What If I Told You (WIITY)* is a work Lyn Gardener of the Guardian describes as 'shakes up traditional theatre and power structures to put the audience in the picture'. *WIITY* is a co-production with the Leeds Playhouse. The show toured to theatres throughout the U.K. including Manchester Royal Exchange, Leeds Playhouse and the Barbican, London. *WIITY* was featured in *British Vogue*, *Time Out*, *The Stage* and *The Scotsman* and was presented at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival 2017 where it was a shortlisted nominee for the Amnesty International Freedom of Expression Award.

## **About the Producer Role**

The Mayers Ensemble is the new vehicle for Pauline's work, created to help support and promote the work of a significant Black artist in the Yorkshire region. The Mayers Ensemble has received investment from Arts Council England to support a period of growth and change for Pauline's practice through the establishment of the company. Fundamental to this is the creation of a new Producer role to work closely alongside Pauline to shape the future of the company.

Initially a 12-month freelance contract, we see this as an exciting and rewarding opportunity for the right Producer to both grow their skills as a producer, while playing a central role in The Mayers Ensemble's organisational development.

## **What will I be doing in the role?**

We are seeking an individual with the skillset to provide organisational development support to Pauline Mayers in establishing The Mayers Ensemble, alongside supporting the producing of a new site-specific production "The Stately Homes Project"; led by artist Pauline Mayers and co-produced by Leeds Playhouse and Fuel.

Key duties in the role will see the Producer:

- Work closely with Pauline Mayers to develop a business plan for the company. This will include identifying new business and income / fundraising opportunities, exploring business models and building a board and establishing the company's base at Leeds Playhouse.
- Support the development of the company's artistic programme, which will include in the short-term creating opportunities for research and development of new ideas and establishing producing relationships to enable new work from The Mayers Ensemble
- Support Pauline Mayers in working with Leeds Playhouse, Fuel and Harewood House to produce 'The Stately Homes Project', representing the company in the three-way co-production.

## **What skills and experience will I need to do the job?**

It is essential that you demonstrate a clear understanding or and experience of working as a Producer. We recognise that Producers can have a varied range of skills and experience. We would expect your cover letter to evidence many of the following desirable experiences and qualities:

- An understanding of and a passion for contemporary theatre.
- Relevant experience of producing shows with a portfolio of contacts in the UK.
- Experience of running small-scale performing arts companies.
- A demonstrable track record in successfully steering complex projects from start to finish.
- Experience of working with co-producers and commissioning partners in the subsidised and/or commercial theatre sectors in the UK / internationally.
- Excellent financial literacy and proven experience of overseeing budgets effectively
- Experience of organisational development projects and strategic development work.
- Proven success in fundraising.
- Proven aptitude for time management and the ability to work to and maintain deadlines.
- Excellent communication and the ability to work with a wide range of people from varied backgrounds with a strong team-working ethic.
- Familiarity with Arts Council England's funding streams, structure and operation and include trusts and foundations.
- A hard working, personable and unflappable nature.
- Excellent administrative skills with a high level of attention to detail.
- A commitment to anti-racism and the championing of underrepresented artists.

## Key relationships

The producer will be working closely with Wesley Bennet-Pearce, Senior Producer at Leeds Playhouse, consultant Ric Watts and Bernie Whittle, Development Producer at Fuel

## Key Information About the Role

**Contract:** This is a 12-month fixed term freelance contract

**Dates:** The contract will run April 2022-March 2023, though negotiable with the right candidate.

**Hours:** We anticipate the Producer spending approx. 16 hours per week on work for the company (equivalent to a 0.4FTE/2 day a week role), including some evenings or weekends if appropriate.

**Flexible working:** Your work pattern will be agreed with Pauline Mayers and can include flexibility to allow you to carry out your duties for company alongside other work and life commitments.

**Fee:** A fee £15,000 is available for this role, paid on the assumption of an average of two days per week worked over the 12 month period.

**Employment:** This fee will be invoiced for as a freelance fee and you will be responsible for paying your own tax and national insurance payments.

**Location:** The Mayers Ensemble is based at Leeds Playhouse. We are open to candidates based anywhere in the UK who can work remotely and be able to travel to Leeds when necessary.

## How to Apply

To apply for this role, please submit a CV and cover letter up to 2 pages of A4 long detailing how you meet the criteria for the role to [themayersensemble2021@outlook.com](mailto:themayersensemble2021@outlook.com) by **12pm, Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2022**.

Alternatively, you can submit a video application (5 minutes max) outlining your work history and how you meet the criteria, and email a link using a file transfer website such as WeTransfer or Dropbox to the same address.

Interviews will be held via Zoom on **Monday 21<sup>st</sup> and Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2022**.

